MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : A statement* containing the information on the points raised is laid on the table.

Selection of Papers for publishing Advertisements.

173. **MR. ITTOOP ITTEECHAN** (*Kunnatnad*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there is any understanding to the effect that Government and departmental advertisements should be given only to certain specified newspapers in this State for publication ;

(*b*) if so, the reasons for the same ; and

(*c*) the names of the newspapers that are chosen for the purpose ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The answer is in the negative ; but generally advertisements are given to the papers of standing having the widest circulation.

(*b*) and (*c*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) above, these questions do not arise.

Expenditure on New Roads.

174. **MR. ITTOOP ITTEECHAN** (*Kunnatnad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the amount spent in 1101, 1102 and 1103, respectively, for the opening of new roads in Travancore as also the amount provided for the year 1104 ;

(*b*) what portion of the amount spent by them in 1101, 1102 and 1103, respectively, for opening new roads has been made use of for Devicolam, Peermade and other parts of the High Ranges for this purpose and what portion of the amount sanctioned for 1104 has been ear-marked for the High Ranges ; and

(*c*) if the major portion of the amount sanctioned each year for the opening of new roads is being spent only for the High Ranges where traffic is very light, the reason for the same ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) and (*b*) A statement† containing the information is laid on the table.

(*c*) The percentage would show that only what is absolutely required is spent on the High Ranges, considering the necessity for opening up unopened country for fully tapping the resources of the land.

The Work of the Sanitary Officers on Cholera Duty.

175. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) who were the Sanitary Officers on cholera duty, along with charge of the Circle, during the cholera epidemic in South Travancore from 1-10-1103 up to date (22-3-1104) ;

(*b*) whether the Sanitary Commissioner had occasion to inspect the work of these officers ; and

(*c*) whether their work was found to be satisfactory, and, if not, what action has been taken in the matter ?

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* *Vide* Appendix V—page 340.

† *Vide* Appendix VI—page 341.

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MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Mr. Padmanabha Aiyangar, a First Grade Vaccinator, was in charge of the Nagercoil Circle in the leave vacancy of the permanent officer of the Circle. He was on cholera duty from the 1st Edavam 1103 to the 11th Chingam 1104 and Mr. S. Vasudeva Aiyar, also a First Grade Vaccinator, succeeded him as Acting Sanitary Circle Officer and continues to be in charge of the Circle on cholera duty.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) During one of the inspections of the Sanitary Commissioner in Chingam 1104, it was found that Acting Sanitary Circle Officer Mr. Padmanabha Aiyangar was not quite up to the mark in conducting the preventive measures. He was immediately reverted to his substantive post and a suitable substitute sent in his place. Preventive measures conducted at present are quite satisfactory.

Cholera and the Sanitary Department.

176. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): With reference to the passage "The methods adopted at present in fighting out cholera are in most cases primitive and unscientific and are therefore inadequate to meet the requirements of the situation especially when the disease assumes unmanageable proportions. Large sums of money are spent in trying to control the heavy mortality caused by this disease in pursuing a policy of locking the stable door after the horse has been stolen", that occurs in the departmental Administration Report of the Sanitary Department for the year 1102, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any up-to-date and scientific proposals to avert and check this epidemic have been formulated and placed before the Government by the Sanitary Department;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the negative, the reasons for the same in view of the passage quoted above; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether they will lay the same on the table together with a statement showing the nature of the action taken in the matter?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Government have invited the co-operation of the Rockefeller Foundation for the formulation of measures for the prevention of all disases, including cholera, which are prevalent in the State. The Foundation has provisionally accepted the invitation and forwarded a tentative programme of public health to be worked out at the joint expense of the Government and the Foundation. The scheme will be actually worked out after the arrival of the officers of the Foundation.

(*b*) and (*c*). In view of the above answer, these questions do not arise.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): In view of the passage already quoted in the interpellation, may I know whether any scheme or proposal was submitted by the Sanitary Commissioner for the consideration of Government?

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